

Curriculum Vitae

Katherine L. Zimmerman

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Katherine Zimmerman is a research fellow at AEI and the research manager for AEI's Critical Threats Project (CTP). She is the senior analyst focusing on the global al Qaeda network and also covers the Salafi-jihadi movement, as well as related trends in the Middle East and Africa. She specializes in al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula and Yemen, as well as al Shabaab in Somalia and al Qaeda in the Sahel. Her analyses have been widely published, including in CNN.com, FoxNews.com, *The Hill*, *The Huffington Post*, *The Wall Street Journal*, and *The Washington Post*. She helped create and now manages CTP's open-source intelligence team of 15 staff and interns as they collect and analyze thousands of documents from local media in Arabic and other languages.

Ms. Zimmerman has testified before Congress about the threats to US national security interests emanating from al Qaeda and its network. She has also briefed members of Congress, congressional staff, and US military, diplomatic, and intelligence community personnel at many echelons within the United States and in Europe.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Research Fellow Critical Threats Project Research Manager American Enterprise Institute, Washington, DC	2009 – present
Junior Faculty, Hertog War Studies Program, Advanced Seminar Institute for the Study of War and the Hertog Foundation, Washington, DC	January 2017
Middle East Studies Capstone Adviser George Washington University, Washington, DC	2014
Consulting experience supporting the U.S. defense and intelligence community	2011 – present

EDUCATION

Bachelor of Arts; Majors: Political Science and Modern Middle East Studies Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut	2009
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LANGUAGES

Research: Arabic and French

CONGRESSIONAL BRIEFINGS AND TESTIMONIES

“AQAP’s Role in the al Qaeda Network,” *Testimony before the House Committee on Homeland Security*, September 18, 2013.

Briefing on former Guantanamo detainees active in AQAP, *statement before the House Armed Services Committee, Oversight and Investigations Subcommittee*, June 15, 2011.

“Al Shabaab and the Challenges of Providing Humanitarian Assistance in Somalia,” *Testimony before the House Committee on Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, and Human Rights*, September 8, 2011.

SELECTED PUBLICATIONS

“AQAP Post-Arab Spring and the Islamic State,” in *How al-Qaeda Survived Drones, Uprisings and the Islamic State*, edited by Aaron Y. Zelin, Washington Institute, June 2017.

“The Manchester Bombing is a Wake Up Call for American and Europe,” *The Hill*, May 23, 2017.

with Colin Lahiff and Jacquelyn Meyer, “US Counterterrorism Objectives in Somalia: Is Mission Failure Likely?” AEI’s Critical Threats Project, March 1, 2017.

“Warning to the Trump Administration: Be Careful About Yemen,” FoxNews.com, February 28, 2017.

“Province Ties to the Islamic State Core: Islamic State in Yemen,” in *Beyond Syria and Iraq: Examining Islamic State Provinces*, edited by Katherine Bauer, Washington Institute, November 14, 2016.

with Alix Halloran, “Warning from the Sahel: al Qaeda’s Resurgent Threat,” AEI’s Critical Threats Project, September 1, 2016.

with Jennifer Cafarella and Harleen Gambhir, “Jabhat al Nusra and ISIS: Sources of Strength,” AEI’s Critical Threats Project and the Institute for the Study of War, February 10, 2016.

with Frederick W. Kagan, Kimberly Kagan, et al., “Competing Visions for Syria and Iraq: The Myth of an Anti-ISIS Grand Coalition,” AEI’s Critical Threats Project and the Institute for the Study of War, January 21, 2016.

with Frederick W. Kagan, Kimberly Kagan, et al., “Al Qaeda and ISIS: Existential Threats to the U.S. and Europe,” AEI’s Critical Threats Project and the Institute for the Study of War, January 21, 2016.

“AQAP: A Resurgent Threat,” *CTC Sentinel*, September 11, 2015.

“A New Model for Defeating al Qaeda in Yemen,” AEI’s Critical Threats Project, September 10, 2015.

“Why America’s Yemen policy is failing,” CNN Opinion, February 13, 2015.

“Competing Jihad: The Islamic State and al Qaeda,” AEI’s Critical Threats Project, September 1, 2014.

“Yemen Model Won’t Work in Iraq, Syria,” *The Washington Post*, July 18, 2014.

“Yemen’s Pivotal Moment,” AEI’s Critical Threats Project, February 12, 2014.

“A New Definition for al Qaeda,” *The Washington Post*, January 31, 2014.

“Al Qaeda Renewed: It is Decentralized and Dangerous,” *National Review*, December 26, 2013.

“Al Qaeda’s African Surge Threatens the U.S.” *The Wall Street Journal*, September 25, 2013.

“We are losing the fight against al Shabaab,” *CNN Global Public Square*, September 23, 2013.

“The al Qaeda Network: A New Framework for Defining the Enemy,” AEI’s Critical Threats Project, September 10, 2013.

“Challenges to America’s Counterterrorism Strategy in Somalia,” AEI’s Critical Threats Project, June 10, 2013.

“Al Qaeda in Yemen: Countering the Threat from the Arabian Peninsula,” AEI’s Critical Threats Project, October 19, 2012.

“Insurgency in Yemen: The New Challenge to American Counter-Terrorism Strategy,” AEI’s Critical Threats Project, March 19, 2012.

“Recipe for Failure: American Strategy toward Yemen and al Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula,” AEI’s Critical Threats Project, February 17, 2012.